Registered No. M.—1175.

201

The Mysore Gazette.

Vol. 55.] PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY. [No. 3.

BANGALORE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1920.

PART II.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

Food Control Operations.

READ—

Government Order No. G. 13905-7—P. P. 6-19-172, dated 17th December 1919, directing that the appointment of Mr. K. Matthan as Food Controller be continued till the end of January 1920 and that his office establishment and other establishments be also continued during the period.

2. Government Order No. 889-91—C. B. 91-18-4, dated the 29th December 1919, permitting Mr. M. S. Ramachandra Rao, Assistant to the Food Controller to continue in that post till the end of January 1920.

3. Government Order No. G. 14767-83—P. P. 26-19-67, dated 29th December 1919, directing the closure of Depots in the Moffussil as early as possible after 1st January 1920, the sale of the stocks therein by auction and the closing of Frontier Ookads and Frontier Establishments on certain Frontiers at the discretion of the Deputy Commissioners concerned and of the Revenue Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

4. Letter No. 8791, dated 1st January 1920, from the Food Controller in Mysore, enclosing copy of a letter from the President, Mysore City Municipal Council, on the food situation in that city.

5. Letter No. C. F. 59—19-20, dated the 5th January 1920, from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, regarding the food situation in that district.

6. Letter dated 6th January 1920, from the Food Controller in Mysore reporting the abnormal rise in the prices of food grains.

7. Government Notification No. 926—C. B. 35-19-4, dated 6th January 1920, posting Mr. K. Matthan, Food Controller, to the charge of the Bangalore District.

8. Telegram, dated 7th January 1920, from the Secretary, North Mysore Planters' Association.

Order No. G. 15611-24—P. P. 6-19-194, dated 9th January 1920.

In view of the present seasonal conditions and of the satisfactory outturn of the crops now being harvested, Government expected that stocks would freely come into

the market and that prices would go down and considered it unnecessary to continue the sale of food grains through Government Agency. They accordingly ordered the closure of the Government Depots in the moffussil with effect from the 1st January 1920.

2. The reports now before Government show, however, that attempts are being made to buy up the newly harvested crops with a view to export them as soon as the embargo on export is removed, that prices have been rising everywhere, and markets are not adequately supplied.

3. Government have separately issued a Press Communique indicating the lines of their future policy and are now pleased to issue the following instructions in pursuance of the same:—

(1) The post of Food Controller and his office and the Food Control Staff in all districts and taluks will continue until further orders, but the Deputy Commissioners, the Food Controller, the Revenue Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Police will have discretion to disband any portion of the staff working under them that are considered unnecessary to give effect to the future arrangements. Depot staffs will, however, be disbanded except to the extent indicated in para (3) below.

(2) The Food Controller will take steps to import as speedily as possible the January allotment of rice from Burma and Bengal in its entirety. The imports may be arranged for as far as possible through merchants agreeing to sell under control and through Co-operative Societies.

(3) Sales of imported food grains should, as far as possible, be arranged through Co-operative Societies and where this course is not feasible, through Government or Municipal Depots. Depots will be re-opened for the purpose wherever the Deputy Commissioner or Food Controller may consider necessary, and on their being re-opened, the staff previously sanctioned for them may be re-entertained. Retail sales by importing merchants on their private account should be under strict control as in 1919.

4. The posting of Mr. Matthan ordered in the Notification of the 6th January 1920 read above is cancelled.

C. S BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To—The Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.
The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.
The Food Controller and Director of Civil Supplies in Mysore.
The Presidents, City Municipalities of Bangalore and Mysore.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.
The Comptroller to Government.
PRESS TABLE.

Commission payable to Taluk Officials during Jatras.

READ—

Letter No. 5297—Muz. 229, dated 9th March 1912, from the Comptroller to Government, requesting the orders of Government, as to whether bills for commission payable to taluk officials for collecting fees, etc., during jatras held in connection with the car festivals of the temples in several places in the State, are not to be held inadmissible, generally, consistantly with the rule contained in Article 49 of the Mysore Service Regulations.

(2) Circular No. 2157-64—Muz. 526-11-2, dated 19th May 1913, to the Deputy Commissioners of Districts, calling for information on certain points.

(3) The following communications from the several Deputy Commissioners furnishing the information called for:—

No.	*Date.*	*From.*
33 ...	29th July 1913 ...	Deputy Commissioner, Hassan.
87 ...	15th August 1913 ...	Do Chitaldrug.
122 ...	8th September 1913 ...	Do Kadur.
S. 253 ...	9th September 1913 ...	Do Bangalore.
312—Muz. 48 ...	23rd January 1914 ...	Do Shimoga.
383—3 ...	14th March 1914 ...	Do Tumkur.
347 ...	2nd April 1914 ...	Do Mysore.
R. H. C—689 ...	31st May 1919 ...	Do Kolar.

ORDER NO. 1932-41—Muz. 526-11-11, DATED 5TH JANUARY 1920.

The collection of fees at the Jatras is not part of the legitimate duties of Taluk Gumastas and other officials and where these officials are employed on such work in addition to their ordinary duties, Government consider that they are entitled to the payment of a suitable commission for it.

2. The reports received from the Deputy Commissioners show that the practice in respect of payment of commission is not uniform in the districts. In some places, the right to levy the fees is sold by auction or given out on contract; and in such cases, the question of the payment of commission does not arise. In others, the collections are made either by the temple servants and Dharmadarsis or by the village officials or by taluk officials or by more than one of these agencies co-operating with one another. In such cases, Deputy Commissioners are authorised to sanction at their discretion, a commission not exceeding three per cent of the collections to the official agency employed for the purpose, provided that no other paid agency is employed or entertained for the work, and that the officials who are deputed to do the work attend to it along with and without prejudice to their ordinary duties.

T. E. JEYARAMA IYER,
Secretary to Government,
Muzrai Department.

To—The Comptroller to Government.
The Muzrai Superintendent in Mysore.
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.

Food Situation for Week ending 3rd January 1920.

Brief abstract of the special reports regarding the food situation for the week ending 3rd January 1920.

Bangalore City.—During the week under report 136 carts of ragi and 110 carts of paddy came into the bazaar as against 98 carts of ragi and 82 carts of paddy in the previous week.

The price of ragi ranged from Rs. 81 to Rs. 98 per cart during the week against Rs. 70 to Rs. 93 per cart in the previous week.

There is sufficient stock of rice and ragi in the bazaar but the prices are high.

In accordance with Government Order No. G. 14767-83—P. P. 26-19-67, dated 29th December 1919, directing that all Government Grain Depots be closed from the 1st January 1920 or as early as possible, the four test depots were closed with effect from the 2nd instant. The supplies to the City Municipal Depot from the Provincial Depot has been stopped.

Mysore City.—Nothing special reported.

Bangalore District.—During the week there were some showers in the taluks of Bangalore, Dodballapur, Nelamangala, Anekal and Devanhalli.

The harvesting of paddy is still going on but that of ragi is almost completed.

The price of ragi is steady at 7 to 10 seers a rupee. Burma rice is showing a tendency to rise in price, the prevailing rate being 4½ seers a rupee. Local rice is selling at 3½ to 4 seers.

The markets are well supplied.

Mysore District.—There was drizzling rain more or less throughout the district during the week under report which although it did no particular harm was unseasonable.

Prices are showing a tendency to rise owing to restrictions having been removed and it is reported from Chamrajnagar that there is a good deal of movement of food grains in the 10 mile belt.

Tumkur District.—The situation remains generally unchanged. There was light rain at the end of the week which did slight harm to avare and togari crop. Prices continue to be high. Ragi is sold at Rs. 95 per cart load and paddy at Rs. 86. Local rice is sold at 3 to 4 seers a rupee.

Burma rice is sold in shops at 4 to 4½ seers a rupee. Sales at Government depots were closed on the 1st January 1920, but they will be resumed in the depots at Tumkur, Tiptur, Gubbi and Turuvekere, where there are still large stocks.

Kolar District.—The demand for the purchase of Burma rice by merchants has since risen still more considerably. The people are clamouring for the continuance of the sale of rice by Government.

204 *Hassan District.*—The *santes* were fairly well supplied with rice and ragi. Standing crops such as avare, horse gram, togari and sugar-cane are in a good condition. Avare and tuvar crops in the Hassan Taluk suffered on account of the recent rain and the cloudy weather.

Prices of ragi and rice are going down, and that of horse gram is rising.

The prospects of the season are good.

Shimoga District.—There has been no material change in the general situation in the district during the last week.

Harvesting of paddy is nearing completion but it may take some time more for the markets to be adequately supplied with local food stuffs. Local rice, which is available in very limited quantities was selling at 5 to 6½ seers per rupee, but after it was known that the depots would be closed it was sold at 4 to 4¼ seers per rupee.

Chitaldrug District.—All the grain depots in the district were closed by the end of December last, as also the sale of Burma rice by Government agency. With the closing of these depots, the price of ragi, rice and jola has begun to rise though there is plenty of grain in the district.

With the object of exporting outside the State, as soon as the present restrictions are removed, which they are expecting every day, the merchants have and are still stocking large quantities of food grains.

The price of local rice has gone up from Rs. 22 to Rs. 25, ragi from Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 and jola from Rs. 7½ to Rs. 12 a palla.

The public are in favour of the continuance of Government Depots and the sale of Burma rice therein to act as a check against the inordinate rise in the prices of all kinds of food grains.

Kadur District.—There was no rainfall in any of the taluks, except Chikmagalur, where it was but slight.

The harvesting of paddy is still going on briskly in all the taluks and that of ragi in Kadur, Tarikere and Mudgere. New rice and ragi are coming into the markets in sufficient quantities, but there is no perceptible change in the prices, except in Mudgere, where paddy is reported to be available at 16 to 18 seers a rupee.

There is no noticeable change in the situation during the week under report.

General (By Food Controller).—There was some slight rainfall in parts of the Bangalore, Tumkur, Mysore, Hassan and Kadur Districts, but practically no damage was caused to the standing crops.

The prices of ragi and paddy are steadily rising in almost all the important trade centres in the State. In the Bangalore City the price of ragi has gone up to Rs. 98 a cart load, while in Tumkur it is reported to have gone up to Rs. 95 a cart load. Paddy is selling at Rs. 58 per cart load in Bangalore City, Rs. 86 per cart load in Tumkur and Rs. 22-8-0 per candy in the Mysore City. These rates, at this season of the year, are abnormally high. The stocks, however, are reported to be ample and the high prices prevailing seem to be due to speculation on the part of the merchants who are expecting the removal of the control over paddy, rice, ragi and jola in the near future. The Deputy Commissioners of Chitaldrug and Mysore Districts have stated that large quantities of grains are moving to the frontier.

The depots in the State have been ordered to be closed and the Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga, attributes to this the rise in the price of local rice. The price of Burma rice has gone up to 4 to 4½ seers a rupee in the Bangalore City owing to the stoppage of sales of rice in the Provincial Grain Depot, Bangalore. The allotment of 2,000 tons of Burma rice and 200 tons of Bengal rice sanctioned by the Deputy Food Stuffs Commissioner in India for the State is being arranged to be imported through licensed merchants.

C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Chief Secretary to Government.